



U.S. Department
of Transportation

National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration

Memorandum

Subject: **ACTION:** Request for Approval on The U.S. DOT
TRCC Traffic Safety Data Policy Statement

Date: June 22, 2005

From: Jeffrey W. Runge, M.D.
Administrator

Reply to: Joseph S. Carra, NPO-100
Attn. Of:

To: Jeffrey N. Shane, (S-3/OST)
Mary E. Peters, (HOA-1/FHWA)
Annette M. Sandberg, (MC-A/FMCSA)
Eric Peterson, (RTA-1/RITA)

Return
by

In accordance with a recommendation in the report titled, "Initiatives to Address Improving Traffic Safety Data," (Data IPT Report, July 2004), the United States Department of Transportation Traffic Records Coordinating Committee (U.S. DOT TRCC) was formed and held its first meeting in October 2004. Since then, representatives from the Office of the Secretary (OST), the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), the Research and Innovative Technologies Administration (RITA), and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) have continued to meet monthly to address initiatives and recommendations contained within the report.

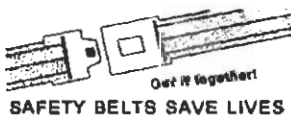
A further recommendation in the Data IPT report was for the U.S. DOT TRCC to develop a policy statement for the Department that would assert the importance of data in managing a successful traffic safety program. In accordance with this recommendation, the U.S. DOT TRCC agreed to the following policy statement:

Traffic Safety Data Policy Statement

"High-quality traffic safety data shall be used to support U.S. DOT programs at the Federal, State and local levels. Data which are timely, accurate, complete, uniform, integrated and accessible are fundamental to successful traffic safety programs as well as essential to problem identification and priority setting, operational management and evaluation, and measurement of results."

I ask you to join me in emphasizing the importance of using data in future endeavors of the organization. Your approval of this statement indicates your commitment to improve traffic safety data and also demonstrates that the U.S. Department of Transportation speaks with one committed voice. Please respond by ten business days from the date of this memorandum.

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AUTO SAFETY HOTLINE
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ES05-005606

The United States Department of Transportation
Traffic Records Coordinating Committee

U.S. DOT TRCC Goal

"Ensure that complete, accurate and timely traffic safety data are collected, analyzed and made available for decision-making at the national, state and local government levels and by others also working to improve highway safety – the reduction of crashes, deaths and injuries on our nation's highways."

U.S. DOT TRCC Mission

"Provide strong coordinated Federal leadership to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of traffic safety data collection and analysis and the resources needed to support it. The TRCC will support data improvements at all levels of government that minimize duplication, improve uniformity, advance electronic data collection, and facilitate data access and use."